



State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Name of Proposal: DNS 15-025: NORTHWEST PIPELINE ALDER CREEK INSPECTION

Description of Proposal:

Northwest Pipeline LLC (Northwest), a Williams Company, is proposing to inspect and repair, if necessary, Anomaly Site 45190 at Milepost 1089.69. This anomaly was identified in the spring of 2014 during Northwest's Integrity Assessment Program in-line inspection of the 26-inch diameter high pressure, underground natural gas 1400 Ignacio-to-Sumas main line. The anomaly to be investigated is part of the Plymouth-to-Roosevelt Anomaly Investigation Project and is located in Section 34, Township 5 North, Range 23 East in southeast Klickitat County, Washington (see Figure 1, Vicinity Map).

The investigation procedure requires trench excavation within Northwest's existing right-of-way (R/W) to visually inspect the pipeline and assess repairs that may be necessary to ensure the safety and integrity of the pipeline. An existing unimproved two-track access road will be utilized to access the site. This access road will be repaired with crushed gravel for approximately 2 miles of its length to fill existing potholes and ruts per the private landowner's request and approval. The gravel will be sourced from the private landowner's existing gravel pit (see Figure 2C, Site Plan).

In order to safely and efficiently complete this project, Northwest will require the use of four temporary extra work areas (TEWAs) outside of the existing easement work area (EEWA). The TEWAs and EEWA are shown on Figures 2A and 2B, Site Plan. A TEWA staging area will be located at either end of the unimproved two-track access road: one off of Six Prong Road and one adjacent to the EEWA and to the west of Alder Creek. These TEWAs will be used for offloading and staging of equipment, storage of materials, parking, and turnarounds. No blading or grading will be required for the use of these TEWAs; however, mowing of vegetation may be needed. Excavation equipment will be mobilized to the anomaly site from the TEWA staging area on the west side of Alder Creek via the EEWA. There will be two additional 75-foot by 300-foot TEWAs located on either side of the EEWA at the anomaly site to temporarily store excavated spoils from the trench. A portion of the TEWAs will occur within the channel of Alder Creek, to the north and south of the pipeline.

Topsoil will be segregated and stored separately from the subsoil within the TEWAs. A total of approximately 1,200 cubic yards (CY) will be excavated to properly inspect the anomaly. Following excavation, a portion of the exposed pipe will be sandblasted and inspected for the anomaly. A Northwest Integrity Specialist will then determine what repairs, if any, will be performed on the pipeline. A repair could include a cut-out and replacement of a section of the pipeline or installation of a permawrap sleeve. Once the repairs are completed, the pipeline will be recoated and the excavated native spoil will be used to backfill the trench with subsoil backfilled first and topsoil replaced to the top horizon of the trench. All excavation work will be contained within Northwest's EEWA and TEWAs. Final site work will include cleanup/remediation and reseedling of the disturbed areas to preconstruction conditions and as per

landowner approval.

Proponent/Applicant:

Northwest Pipeline LLC
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Location of Proposal, including street, if any: Alder Creek near Six Prong and Alderdale Roads, 17 miles NE of Roosevelt, Klickitat County, Washington: Township 5N, Range 23E, Section 34.

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

WDFW has determined that this proposal will likely not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Therefore, state law¹ does not require an environmental impact statement (EIS). WDFW made this determination of nonsignificance (DNS) after we reviewed the environmental checklist and other information on file with us.

We issued this DNS according to state rules.² We will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date we issued the DNS. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal or DNS. We must receive your comments within 14 days of the date of this letter. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on May 7, 2015**.

Method of Comment: The following procedures shall govern the method to comment on agency SEPA proposals. Comments received through these procedures are part of the official SEPA record for this proposal.

You can submit your comments any one of the following ways:

- Email to SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov
- Online at the WDFW SEPA website comment link at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/>
- Fax to (360) 902-2946;
- Mail to the address below.

Responsible Official: Lisa Wood

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Regulatory Services Section

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

After the comment period closes, applicants may view the updated status of this proposal on the WDFW SEPA website: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/>. Once the status is posted as final, applicants and permittees may take action on the proposal. When a proposal is modified or withdrawn, notice will be given in accordance with state law.¹

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Lisa Wood at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call her at (360) 902-2260.

DATE OF ISSUE: April 23, 2015

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

1. RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c)
2. WAC 197-11-340(2).